

Lion's Pride is back

By Zach Silva
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After a seven-year hiatus, the *Lion's Roar* newspaper, the student publication produced at Cottage Grove High School, is back in action and will be in this week's edition of the *Cottage Grove Sentinel*.

Partnering with the *Sentinel*, the *Lion's Roar* which was first printed in 1943 will be publishing on the last Wednesday of each month in what was previously the "School News" tab of the newspaper.

Since the paper's absence in 2011, students tried to keep it going but without a designated class were unable to keep it afloat. In recent years teachers, including Garrett Bridgens, had been having discussions about getting the paper back into the school.

Last year a group at CGHS met with *Sentinel* Editor Caitlyn May who agreed to help bring this dream to life.

"I think if teenagers understand how the news is made and why a story is a story and why other things are not stories and what the facts are and what bias is, I think we're creating good consumers of news," said May.

Bridgens' media classes, two classes that total 30 students, then became the newsroom for the *Lion's Roar*.

"It just worked to have kids do the photography, learn InDesign and become reporters and so yeah we started working with Caitlyn, she started coming in twice a month and helped get us where we need to be," said

Bridgens.

Before students were at a place of writing and reporting on the news, they first needed to understand what news was.

"It was actually pretty interesting to go in and they didn't know anything about the news. They had a general understanding of this broad 'media' term but had no idea about the rules and regulations that guide what journalists do. They just kind of knew the rhetoric around society. And every class I would ask what's going on in the news and the first few months it was like pulling teeth," said May.

As the months progressed, students became more and more informed as they recognized and questioned stories both locally and nationally--from the hurricane in Puerto Rico to the coaching change at the University of Oregon--that they were reading and viewing. Students then came up with a wide list of stories that they were interested in covering.

After assigning jobs ranging from editor to reporter to photographer, the class was off to create their first paper. With the different positions and jobs assigned to students, Bridgens is excited about what the students can do moving forward.

"From my perspective as an advisor and teacher in here, I am thrilled working with some of these students that are writers or photographers, they're really talented. And you can see that. And I'm like, you know, you

could have a future in this if you wanted to stick with it," said Bridgens.

The first issue has 11 different stories that discuss topics such as South Lane Mental Health to student athlete profiles.

Senior Jackson Perkins, one of the editors of the paper, has enjoyed the process of making the paper. Perkins is also an editor with the CGHS yearbook but has seen his role change when making the *Lion's Roar*.

"So far there's a lot more choices I have in here. A lot more reign with what I do... But here I've kind of found that Bridgens will get asked a question and he'll be like, 'Ask your editor' and I'll be like 'That's me,'" said Perkins. "So it's kind of been different. I think it's been fun."

Perkins is looking forward to the first edition of the paper but is more excited about the progress they can make and what is still to come.

"I'm hoping with the next one it won't be as haphazardly thrown together on the last day," said Perkins who was then corrected by Bridgens that it wasn't 'haphazardly' put together.

"Okay, put together in a last-minute manner."

The *Lion's Roar* can be read this week beginning on B9. It will appear regularly in the last edition of the month throughout the school year in place of the "School News" pullout section usually found in *The Sentinel*.

High school puts on latest play



From left: Keiara Faville, Shaye Fuller, Kelsey Tucker

In 2015, the CGHS Drama Department started an annual tradition of providing seniors with the opportunity to direct their fellow actors in a play of their choosing. This year those directors are Keiara Faville and Kelsey Tucker, who are producing *Eleemosynary* by Lee Blessing. Shaye Fuller is the stage manager. The three actresses are Madison Owens, Keely Galbreath and Cayla Russell.

The play probes into the delicate relationship of three singular women: the grandmother, Dorothea, who has sought to assert her independence through strong-willed eccentricity; her brilliant daughter, Artie (Artemis), who has fled the stifling domination of her mother; and Artie's daughter, Echo, a child of exceptional intellect—and sensitivity—whom Artie has abandoned to an upbringing by Dorothea. There will be three performances on January 25, 26 and 27 at 7:30 p.m. in the CGHS Cafetorium. Tickets are \$5 for students and senior citizens and \$10 for adults.

Parks remain open during shutdown

As of Monday, Jan. 22, the federal government remained shut down after legislators could not reach an agreement on funding but continued to battle over immigration.

The shutdown had minimal effects as of Monday but had the possibility of stretching into tax refunds, military pay and government offices.

The Bureau of Land Management released the following statement detailing the effects

of the shutdown on public lands.

During the lapse of appropriations and the subsequent shutdown of the federal government, the majority of Bureau of Land Management public lands across the country will remain as accessible as possible while still following all applicable laws and procedures. BLM roads, trails, campgrounds, boat ramps and recreation sites will remain accessible to visitors, but emergency and rescue ser-

vices will be limited. All BLM facilities on public lands however will be closed.

Please note that because of the federal government shutdown, the BLM websites and social media are not being monitored or updated and may not reflect current conditions.

For updates on the shutdown, please visit www.doi.gov/shutdown.

January is National Mentoring Month, and this year the National Mentoring Partnership is celebrating 16 years of the mentoring movement by encouraging people to explore local mentoring opportunities that connect more of our community's young people with caring adults. One such opportunity here in Cottage Grove is Reaching Out Mentoring South Lane, the school-based mentoring program that has been promoting friendships between students in the South Lane School District and their volunteer mentors for the last 10 years. "This is a great opportunity to thank all our mentors, past and present. It's also another chance for us to highlight the continuing need for volunteers to share an hour a week with a student who

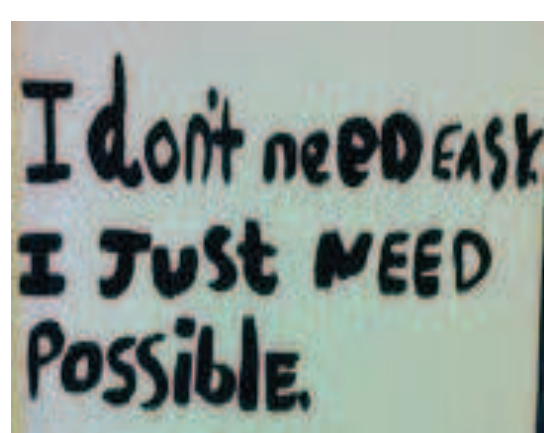
could benefit from their friendship," noted Marc Bass, Mentor Coordinator for Reaching Out Mentoring South Lane. The National Mentoring Partnership notes that mentoring is a critical part of developing positive relationships within a community, and it is proven to have a positive impact on academic, social, and economic outcomes for young people. Research shows that mentors can play a



powerful role in providing young people with the tools to make responsible choices, attend and engage in school, and reduce or avoid risky behaviors. In turn, these young people are 55% more likely to be enrolled in college, 81% more likely to report participating regularly in sports or extracurricular activities, and 78% more likely to volunteer regularly in their communities. Yet, the same research

shows that 9 million young people across the country feel disconnected from their schools or communities and feel like they have no one to turn to. "Any kid can benefit from having someone who listens to them, makes them feel valued, and who gives them positive, constructive feedback. That's what our program is about," said Bass. "Remember who made a difference for you, and then be that friend for someone else." Reaching Out Mentoring South Lane is registered with the National Mentoring Partnership. For more information on how you can be involved, please call Marc at 541-953-4822 or Lori at 541-953-4844.

Be Someone Who Matters To Someone Who Matters



BECOME A MENTOR

Reaching Out Mentoring South Lane

Reaching Out To Students in South Lane School District Since 2008

To Learn How You Can Make A Difference, Call (541)953-4822

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